



MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 7th February 2012

North Midlands Solar Thermal Power Project gains community support

The construction of a new solar power station using an Australian invented and owned technology, to improve the reliability of power in the Mid West of Western Australia has received strong community support.

In an information forum held last week in Morawa, community members indicated their support for the North Midlands Solar Thermal Power Project that has recently been shortlisted by Regional Development Australia (RDA) for a funding submission.

The project, which is jointly driven by the Shire of Morawa, WA-based Carbon Reduction Ventures Pty Ltd and Solastor Pty Ltd, has considerable potential as a fringe of grid solution to enhance power reliability in this Mid West region.

The project involves the construction of a new innovative renewable energy power project utilising Australian invented and developed Concentrated Solar Power (CSP) technology with VirtualSolarTM energy storage. This technology represents a breakthrough for renewable solar power generation, allowing the plant to store the sun's energy and continue to generate power with or without the sun.

According to Shire of Morawa chief executive officer Gavin Treasure, "this world class project will deliver major improvements in power supply and reliability to the region, and a financial return to the community.

"Morawa is currently on the cusp of significant growth opportunities with new iron ore mining ventures in the area. This growth, however, is constrained by power supply reliability issues associated with fringe of grid locations" Mr Treasure explained.



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“The project will facilitate expansion of Morawa as the community grows in conjunction with new mining developments, enabling new land and housing developments to occur; provide local and indigenous employment opportunities in the construction, operation and maintenance phases of the plant.

An added benefit of the project will be to provide a pilot for other fringe of grid communities around the country to duplicate this model, helping to reduce reliance on mainstream power supply, and showcase an innovative Local Government/ State and Federal Government / Private Industry partnership that can be replicated in future projects.”

“This is particularly important given Morawa’s status as a “Super Town” as announced by the State Government through the Royalties for Regions Program” Mr Treasure said.

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Note to Editors;

Carbon Reduction Ventures Pty Ltd (“CRV”) is a new WA based Australian renewable energy company delivering advanced solutions in solar thermal technology projects in remote and regional Australia. www.carbonreduction.com.au

Solastor Pty Ltd is the technology partner for the North Midlands Solar Thermal Power Project. Solastor was established in 2010 to undertake renewable energy projects utilising solar thermal power generation and storage technology. Solastor is committed to developing a clean, efficient and cost-effective renewable energy system that can be utilised on a 24 hour basis, implemented on any terrain and easily scaled to meet project requirements of any size. www.solastor.com.au

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